

CLAIMS

1. A niobium alloy powder characterized in that the niobium alloy powder comprises any one or more selected from the group consisting of:

molybdenum: 0.002 to 20% by mass,

chromium: 0.002 to 20% by mass,

tungsten: 0.002 to 20% by mass,

phosphorus: 0.002 to 5% by mass, and

boron: 0.002 to 5% by mass, and

the niobium alloy powder further comprises:

hydrogen: 0.005 to 0.10% by mass,

the balance being substantially niobium,

wherein the specific surface area of the powder is from 1 to 20 m<sup>2</sup>/g; the powder has a cumulative pore volume of 0.2 ml/g or more by mercury porosimetry; and the cumulative volume of the pores each having a diameter of 1 µm or less makes up 10% or more and the cumulative volume of the pores each having a diameter of 10 µm or less makes up 40% or more in relation to the total cumulative pore volume.

2. The niobium alloy powder according to claim 1, characterized in that the niobium alloy powder further comprises:

nitrogen: 0.005 to 1% by mass.

3. The niobium alloy powder according to claim 1, characterized in that the average particle size of the secondary particles of the powder, which are formed by coagulation, is from 10 to 200 µm.

4. The niobium alloy powder according to claim 2, characterized in that the average particle size of the secondary particles of the powder, which are formed by coagulation, is from 10 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5. An anode for use in a solid electrolytic capacitor, characterized in that the anode is a sintered body using, as a raw material of the body, the niobium alloy powder according to claim 1.

6. An anode for use in a solid electrolytic capacitor, characterized in that the anode is a sintered body using, as a raw material of the body, the niobium alloy powder according to claim 2.

7. An anode for use in a solid electrolytic capacitor, characterized in that the anode is a sintered body using, as a raw material of the body, the niobium alloy powder according to claim 3.

8. A solid electrolytic capacitor characterized in that the solid electrolytic capacitor is made by incorporating a sintered body, as an anode in the interior of the capacitor, wherein the sintered body is made from the niobium alloy powder according to claim 1.

9. A solid electrolytic capacitor characterized in that the solid electrolytic capacitor is made by incorporating a sintered body, as an anode in the interior of the capacitor, wherein the sintered body is made from the niobium alloy powder according to claim 2.

10. A solid electrolytic capacitor characterized in that the solid electrolytic capacitor is made by incorporating a sintered body, as an anode in the interior of the capacitor, wherein the sintered body is made from the niobium alloy powder according to claim 3.